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no doubt that a list of corrections that we have been enabled to send to him will be inserted shortly in a new edition. The Geographical Society is indebted to Mr. Norie for some recent information respecting a new group in the Pacific, which will be found at p. 453, discovered in the spring of this year by Her Majesty's ship *Actæon*.

We believe we do but express the wish of all who are interested in the welfare of seamen, and in the advancement of Hydrography, in hoping that Admiral Krusenstern will continue to watch over all future discoveries with the same attention he has lately bestowed on those in the Pacific Ocean.

IX.—*Description Nautique des Côtes de l'Algérie.* Par Capitaine A. Bérard; suivie de Notes, par M. De Tesson, Ingénieur Hydrographe. Paris, 1837.

THE detail of the operations of the various coast-surveys which have been executed by this country within the last five-and-twenty years, including, besides our own coasts, great part of the shores of the Mediterranean—the east and west coasts of Africa—the West Indies—and the shores of Patagonia, Chile, and Peru—has, after being examined by the hydrographer, usually been consigned to the “Record Office,” those parts only being published which are requisite for our shipping,—as the chart and brief practical sailing directions. Thus far the immediate object for which the surveys were instituted is accomplished; but is it not much to be regretted that a large stock of valuable geographical information should thus be almost consigned to oblivion?

The work before us is a happy innovation upon such a bad custom, and the great demand for it by the public, and the high praise it deservedly meets with wherever it is known, is a complete answer to the question we have heard asked, “Who would read such a work?” Surely in a country so essentially maritime as Great Britain, an accurate nautical description of a coast will not only find readers, but will be highly appreciated by all who take an interest in geography. We are far from meaning to imply that such a description should take the place of sailing directions—never for one moment—*they* should be brief, plain, and practical, such as a sailor, in the hour of need, may turn to with confidence; but as an appendix to these directions, we would gladly see such a description of a coast published, as may enable those, who are competent, to form some judgment of the accuracy of the survey represented on the chart, and such as geographers in the present day have a right to expect.

The northern shore of Africa, from Al Araish, on the confines of Egypt on the east, to the gulf of Bugia on the west, was sur-

veyed in detail under the direction of the British Government in 1820—4, by Captain W. H. Smyth, R.N.; again, from Bugía on the east, to Cape Spartel, was examined by Tofiño in 1783—6, and many of the positions of the excellent old Spanish hydrographer, as inserted in his *Derrotero*, are confirmed by recent observation. This latter survey being found inadequate to the wants of a rapidly growing intercourse between France and *l'Algérie*, the French government directed a more minute examination of parts of the northern shore of Africa, of which the work before us is the result.

The present survey of this coast extends from Cape Serrat in $9^{\circ} 12'$ E. to the Ja'farín Islands in $2^{\circ} 26'$ W., a distance of about 700 miles; and the work before us is a detailed account by M. Bérard, accompanied by some excellent notes by M. de Tessan, of the *contour* and appearance of the coast; of the heights of mountains; and of the mode of conducting the survey, which leads us to place the fullest confidence in the accuracy of the results obtained. Such a work, from its nature, is not susceptible of analysis, but we subjoin a few of the principal positions determined:—

		Lat. N.	Long.
Algiers	.	$36^{\circ} 47' 20''$	$3^{\circ} 4' 25''$ E.
Areshkúl	.	$35 19 37$	$1 29 0$ W.
Abuja Pt.	.	$35 53 25$	$0 28 0$ W.
Bona	.	$36 53 58$	$7 45 56$ E.
Bugía	.	$36 46 34$	$5 4 51$ E.
I Fratelli	.	$37 18 6$	$9 24 19$ E.
Galita Id.	.	$37 31 14$	$8 56 18$ E.
Falcon Cape	.	$35 46 25$	$0 47 11$ W.
Fegalo Cape	.	$35 34 18$	$1 11 25$ W.
Hone Cape	.	$35 8 20$	$1 49 45$ W.
Jezaír-ul-Ja'farín	.	$35 11 0$	$2 26 0$ W.
Jezaír-ul-Habíb	.	$35 43 28$	$1 7 38$ W.
Mars-al-Kebír	.	$35 44 21$	$0 41 10$ W.
Milonia Cape	.	$35 6 10$	$2 10 45$ W.
Noeh Mount	.	$35 8 0$	$1 41 0$ W.
Serrat Cape	.	$37 14 0$	$9 12 23$ E.
Tabarcah	.	$36 57 59$	$8 45 28$ E.

The charts accompanying this work are admirably engraved; they consist of a general chart in two sheets, on the scale of five inches to a degree—of five special charts, and six plans of islands and anchorages; and both they and the work are illustrated by beautifully etched views of the whole coast, taken always on a south bearing, and drawn according to a fixed scale. Both the charts and the description do honour to MM. Beautemps-Beaupré and Daussy, who directed the survey; and to MM. Bérard and de Tessan, who have successfully carried it into execution.